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Reflection 2

Literature reviews are essential when conducting an action research. The literature that one acquires help formulate the research questions and process and it usually guides the researcher on the implementation of the research. Literature reviews give you more concrete understanding of the topic being addressed. In addition the researchers become more aware of the validity and types of research conducted in the past as well as anything conducted today.

A great example of using literature review s to guide an action research is the topic I have chosen. My topic is finding effective strategies for English language learners (ELL’s) in science. The literature I will be using are a wide variety of research practices that show the strategies that work for ELL’s as well as a differentiation in monolingual classrooms. In addition I seek to implement the use of technology in order to support the ELL. The research I have conducted address these issues, such as what works for ELL’s, what works in a science classroom, and what computer based programs best implement the needs of ELL’s in science.

Assessing prior research and theorist gives the researcher the ability to understand what has been proven to work. Previous research gives the researcher a long term account of the topic being addressed. The researcher is able to see if the work conducted still holds true to the modern times. In addition using prior research or theorist gives the researcher the ability to guide the research through a more effective and concrete path and avoid making the mistakes of the past, as well as have the knowledge on the types of research that still needs to be done.

Current strategies, on the other hand, give the researcher a new perspective on the ever changing world around us, especially when trying to implement any strategies that incorporate technology. Technology is ever changing and research on the use of technology needs to be current and up to date. New programs are being developed that make communicating and teaching more user friendly where anyone can be able to access it. All current instruction or strategies are usually developed based on the instructional strategies that need to be addressed. What I am finding with my research is that many practices adhere to diversity, differentiation, and ELL (who make up a large amount of our city schools today). Previous research has mainly marginalized these learners’ needs and abilities.

Literature reviews are essential for any type of research. It has help to guide me in my research and has given me practical ideas and strategies to use for my research. It has also given me the ability to understand the needs of ELLs and the ability to teach them in the content areas while implementing language skills.

**References**

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